

Join the
Family Self-Sufficiency
(FSS) Program



For Section 8 participants only

*Mission Statement of the
Oakland Housing
Authority:*

*To assure the availability of
quality housing for low-income
persons and to promote the
civic involvement and
economic self-sufficiency of
residents and to further the
expansion of affordable
housing within Oakland.*

Referred by:

For questions regarding FSS:

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Oakland Housing Authority
1619 Harrison Street
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Would YOU like to...

- Go from welfare to work or...
- Get a better paying job or...
- Train for marketable skills, a better-paying job...

**If you answered YES to
any of these...**

**We would like to
REWARD you for your
WORK.**



**SECTION 8
FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY
PROGRAM**

How do I make money in FSS?

Under the Section 8 program, when your income increases, your rent increases as well.

If you are in the FSS program, a portion of that rent increase will go into an escrow (savings) account each month if that increase is from earned income* (pay from work). OHA contributes all the money to this escrow account.

This escrow grows each month your earned income is above your starting income. You earn escrow savings until you graduate from FSS, up to five years from the date you enter the FSS program.

At graduation from the FSS program, you receive all the money in the escrow account, tax free, to use however you wish.

Some past FSS participants have earned enough to put down payments on homes, purchase cars, go to college, and pay off their debts.

*provided your income falls within certain HUD guidelines

What is my commitment?

You must:

- Attend an Orientation (1 hour).
- Fill out some easy paperwork
- Meet with an FSS Coordinator for an appointment or two to discuss your future goals.
- Allow us to occasionally check your progress with meetings, phone calls, and mailings.
- Work full-time, be looking for suitable full-time work, or be participating in a training/education program. Some FSS participants have trained in community colleges (like Laney College) for skilled trade, computer, and culinary, and other certificates and have moved on to prosperous careers.
- Be off TANF and GA (but not Section 8) by at least your fourth year of the program.
- Comply with your Section 8 contract

Our Commitment to you...

We will:

- Put a portion of your rent increase (from earned income) into your escrow account each month.
- Send a statement showing your escrow amount to you every three months so you can view your progress.
- Provide helpful advice and referrals to community resources, from career counseling to credit clean-up, to help you reach your goals.

Please note: Joining FSS will NOT result in the loss of your Section-8 voucher, whether you graduate from FSS or not.

**FSS IS FOR CURRENT OHA
SECTION 8 CLIENTS ONLY**



Interested?

Contact one of Oakland Housing Authority's FSS Coordinators to sign up for an orientation.



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